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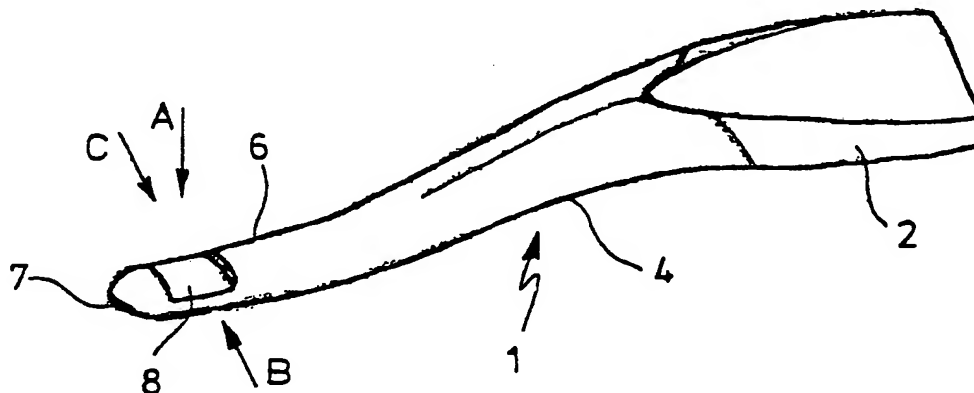
(43) International Publication Date  
12 June 2003 (12.06.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 03/047435 A1**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A61B 17/04**, 17/42, A61F 2/00 (74) Agents: **BOTH, Georg et al.**; Uexküll & Stolberg, Besel-  
erstr. 4, 22607 Hamburg (DE).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/EP02/12849 (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (22) International Filing Date:  
15 November 2002 (15.11.2002)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
101 59 181.0 3 December 2001 (03.12.2001) DE
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- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:  
— with international search report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SURGICAL AUXILIARY INSTRUMENT



(57) Abstract: A surgical auxiliary instrument (1) contains a grip section (2) in the proximal region, an adjoining intermediate section (4) and, in the distal region, an application section (6) set up for laying against an implant tape. The application section (6) is preferably provided with a depression (8).

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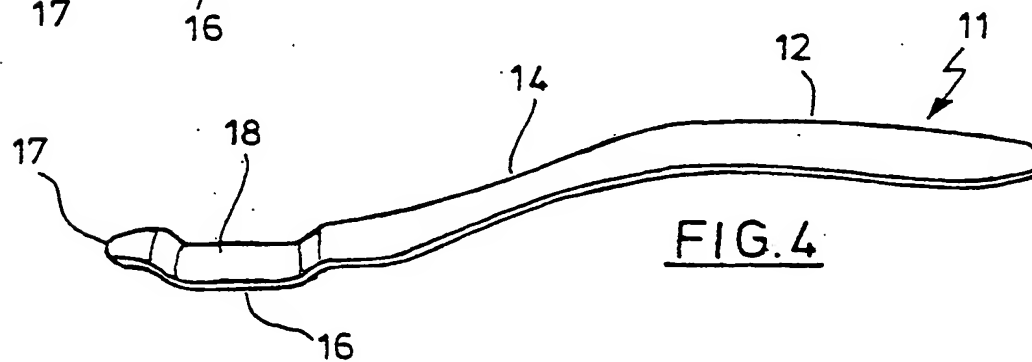
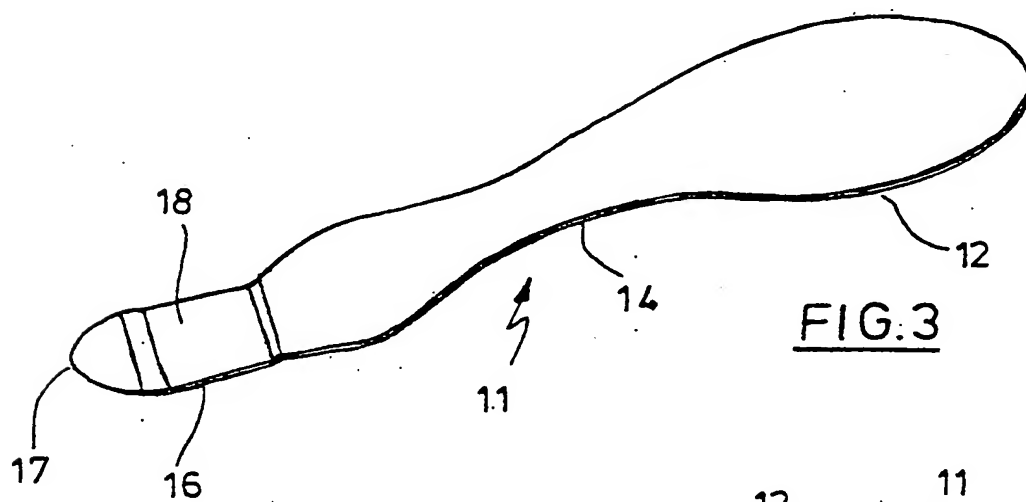
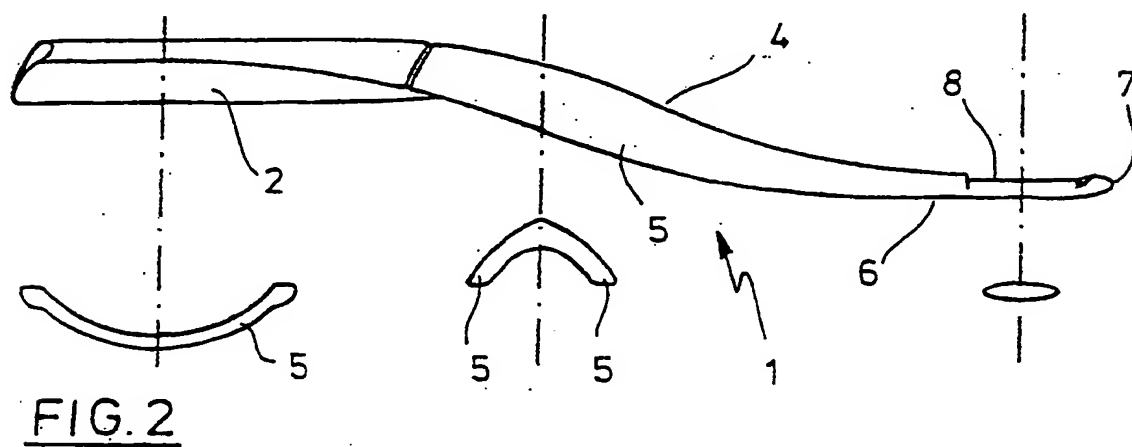
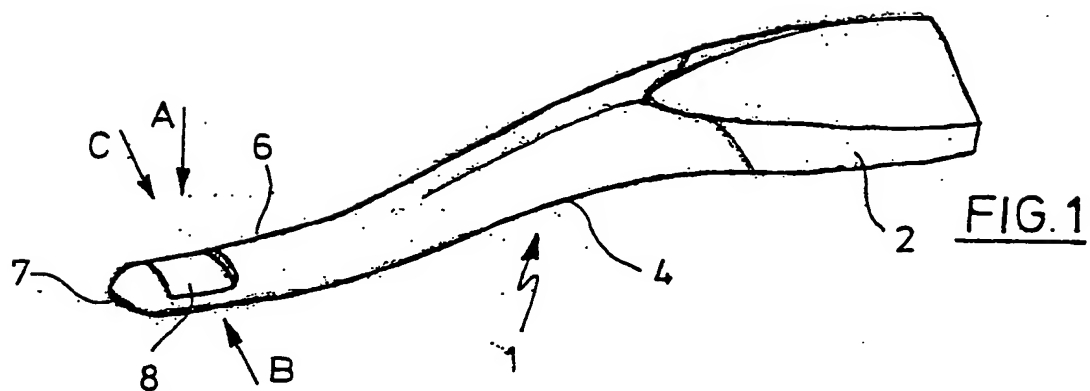
Claims

1. Surgical auxiliary instrument with a grip section (2; 12) in the proximal region, an adjoining intermediate section (4; 14) and an application section (6; 16), in the distal region, set up for laying against an implant tape.
- 5 2. Surgical auxiliary instrument according to claim 1, characterized in that the application section (6; 16) runs cranked relative to the grip section (2; 12).
- 10 3. Surgical auxiliary instrument according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the application section (6; 16) has a depression (8; 18), the length of which, measured in longitudinal direction of the auxiliary instrument (1; 11), is at least as great as the width of the implant tape to be used, and which is open on both longitudinal sides of the  
15 auxiliary instrument (1; 11).
4. Surgical auxiliary instrument according to claim 2 and claim 3, characterized in that the depression (8; 18) is  
20 accessible from the side on which the grip section (2; 12) is located.
5. Surgical auxiliary instrument according to one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the application section (6; 16) is designed flat.  
25
6. Surgical auxiliary instrument according to one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the intermediate section (4) has a reinforcement profile (5).
- 30 7. Surgical auxiliary instrument according to one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that it is designed as an injection moulding (1).

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8. Use of a surgical auxiliary instrument according to one of claims 1 to 7 in a TVT procedure, in which the application section (6; 16) is pushed between the patient's urethra and the pulled-in implant tape, and the position of the implant tape is checked, set, corrected or maintained through an exertion of force, directed away from the urethra, on the auxiliary instrument (1; 11).
9. Use according to claim 8, in which the auxiliary instrument has the features of claim 3, characterized in that the implant tape comes to rest in the depression (8; 18) and runs transversely with respect to the auxiliary instrument (1; 11).

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP 02/12849

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B17/04 A61B17/42 A61F2/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Description of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	FR 820 187 A (COUTURE RAYMOND) 5 November 1937 (1937-11-05) page 1, line 31 - line 42; figures 1,2	1-3,6
A	US 3 776 240 A (WOODSON E) 4 December 1973 (1973-12-04) column 2, line 24 - line 61; figures 1-5	1,2
A	WO 97 13465 A (MEDSCAND MEDICAL AB ;ULMSTEN ULF (SE)) 17 April 1997 (1997-04-17) abstract; figure 1	1

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

\*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

\*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

\*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

\*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*8\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 February 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

26/02/2003

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/EP 02/12849

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 8, 9  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 02/12849

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